

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

COMPETITIVE PRODUCT PRICES
PRIORITY MAIL CONTRACT GROUP (MC2009-25)
PRIORITY MAIL CONTRACT 7
NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENT

Docket No. CP2009-31

**MOTION OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FOR TEMPORARY RELIEF**
(September 12, 2012)

In Order No. 1438, issued August 17, 2012, the Commission granted the Postal Service's request for a temporary extension of the contract in the instant docket, until September 19, 2012. The Postal Service and the customer have been working diligently to reach a new agreement, to avoid any interruption in the Postal Service's ability to provide this customer access to negotiated rates. However, the Postal Service and the customer were unable to reach an agreement on a new contract in time to file it with the Commission more than 15 days prior to the September 19, 2012, expiration date. The parties expected to have a signed contract in place in advance of this expiration date, but are still gathering signatures on a final copy of the contract.

Nevertheless, the Postal Service and the customer expect to sign the new contract within the next week and file it with the Commission thereafter. Because of the timing of the regulatory process, there will be a window between the expiration of the existing contract in this docket and the effective date of the new contract, while the Commission completes its review. Thus, the customer continues to face the prospect of an interruption in its access to negotiated rates as a result of the processes that it must

participate in when it does business with the Postal Service, rather than with one of the Postal Service's competitors.

To avoid this result, the Postal Service respectfully requests that the Commission grant an additional thirty-day extension to allow the existing contract to remain in effect until such time as the Commission is able to complete its review of the new agreement. Thus, the proposed extension would only last for a finite and relatively short period of time. In conclusion, for the reasons discussed above, and in consideration of the customers' business continuity, the Postal Service hereby moves for temporary relief to allow the existing contract to remain on the competitive products list for thirty additional days.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.
Chief Counsel, Pricing and Product Support

Elizabeth A. Reed

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-3179, Fax -6187
elizabeth.a.reed@usps.gov
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